

Smog Certification for Diesel-Powered Vehicles

New Legislation

Effective January 1, 2010, smog emission inspections are required for diesel-powered vehicles manufactured in or after 1998, and have a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 14,000 pounds or less for original registrations and transfers. Biennial smog inspection requirements will be phased-in beginning with a registration renewal date of April 30, 2010.

Procedures

A smog check inspection is required:

<i>On a diesel-powered vehicle with a GVWR, of 14,000 pounds or less if the application is...</i>	<i>and is a 1998 year-model or newer with a ...</i>
an original transaction	due date on or after January 1, 2010.
a transfer application	due date on or after January 1, 2010.
a renewal application	VIN ending in an even number, with a due date on or after April 30, 2010.
a renewal application	with a VIN ending in an odd number or a letter, with a due date on or after January 1, 2011.

- The 4-year rule that currently exempts gas-powered vehicles, four or less model-years old, from transfer smog **is not** applicable to diesel-powered vehicles. A smog transfer fee will not be due for diesel-powered vehicles as they must obtain a smog certificate.
- The 6-year rule that currently exempts gas-powered vehicles, six or less model-years old, from biennial smog **is not** applicable to diesel-powered vehicles. A smog abatement fee will not be due for diesel-powered vehicles as they must obtain a smog certificate.
- Exemptions applicable to gas-powered vehicles located in non-biennial counties, family transfers, and obtaining a smog for a transfer within the past 12 months, will also apply to diesel-powered vehicles.

New vehicle dealers may certify on the New Vehicle Report of Sale (REG 397) that new diesel-powered vehicles with a GVWR of 14,000 pounds or less, meets emission requirements.

Vehicles that fail the smog check inspection may be eligible for the Consumer Assistance Program (CAP). Qualified consumers will be eligible for financial assistance for emission-related repairs or they can choose to retire their high-polluting vehicle.

All questions regarding diesel-powered vehicle smog requirements should be referred to the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR), at 1-800-952-5210, or visit www.smogcheck.ca.gov.

Background

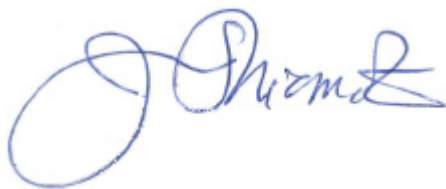
Effective January 1, 2010, legislation expands the motor vehicle smog inspection program to include “diesel-powered” vehicles manufactured in 1998, and newer, with a GVWR of 14,000 pounds or less for original registrations, transfers, and renewals.

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online, at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via e-mail alert in December 2009.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J Shiimoto". The signature is stylized with a large loop at the beginning and a cursive script for the rest of the name.

JEAN SHIOMOTO, Deputy Director
Communication Programs Division